

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2017

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, BG, US

SUBJ: NATIONALIZATION COMPENSATION: OTHER POTENTIAL US CLAIMANTS

REF: STATE 220385

1. SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE ROUNDS UP STATUS OF SEVERAL US FIRMS WITH POTENTIAL COMPENSATION CLAIMS AND RESPONDS TO CERTAIN SPECIFIC QUESTIONS REFTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. HERewith A STATUS REPORT ON US COMPANIES, OTHER THAN BELBAGCO AND INSURANCE COMPANIES (SEE SEPTELS), PURSUANT TO REFTEL.

3. GENERAL. MANY OF THESE FIRMS WERE INCORPORATED IN KARACHI WITH SALES OFFICES IN EAST PAKISTAN. THE OFFICES' ASSETS CONSISTED OF SOME GOODS IN STOCK AND OFFICE FURNITURE. WE SUSPECT THAT, IN MOST CASES, THE US PARENT COMPANY MAY WELL NOT WISH TO PURSUE A CLAIM. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT US FIRMS ENTITLED TO FILE CLAIMS ARE AWARE IN TIME OF THEIR RIGHT TO DO SO. THOSE IDENTIFIED BELOW AS ABANDONED PROPERTIES COULD HAVE INVOLVED ASSETS HELD BY US PARENT COMPANY. IF SO, THAT US FIRM MIGHT WISH TO FILE A CLAIM AND, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD BE ENTITLED TO DO

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SO.

4. STATUS OF SPECIFIC FIRMS.

A. WILCOX AND LANGSTON (PARA 4, REFTEL). MOUDUD AHMED OF LAW CONSULTANTS TOLD US SEPTEMBER 8 THAT HE HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM AUDLEY TO FILE CLAIM, BUT HAS NOT YET DONE SO. CLAIM FORM AND SHARE CERTIFICATES HAVE REACHED DACCA, BUT POWER OF ATTORNEY AND NATIONALITY CERTIFICATE, REQUESTED URGENTLY, ARE STILL ENROUTE. HE EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO FILE THE AUDLEY CLAIM WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS.

B. OTHER FOUR FIRMS (PARA 5, REFTEL). THE FOUR FIRMS IN DACCA 4462 AND OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR CURRENT STATUS HERE FOLLOW:

I. GENERAL TIRE AND RUBBER CO., 3 GENERAL STREET, AKRON, OHIO 44329; WHICH OWNED 53.33 PERCENT OF GT&R, CHITTAGONG. GT&R IS NOT LISTED AS ABANDONED PROPERTY WITH DIRECTOR, DISINVESTMENT BOARD, INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT, AND WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE THE GT&R OFFICE, CHITTAGONG (IT MAY WELL HAVE BEEN CLOSED) TO LEARN THEIR STATUS. WE EXPECT TO HAVE A DEFINITE REPORT NEXT WEEK.

II. CARTER-WALLACE INC., 767 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY, 10022; WHICH OWNED 70 PERCENT OF A CARTER-WALLACE OFFICE IN BANGLADESH. THE PRESENT ADDRESS IS CARTER-WALLACE (ZONAL OFFICE), CARE OF SPENCERS LTD., 22 MOTIJHEEL COMMERCIAL AREA, DACCA. SPENCERS IS AN IMPORTER OF PHARMACEUTICALS AND IS BOOKING ORDERS FOR CARTER-WALLACE. ACCORDING TO AN EMPLOYEE THERE, C-W HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM ABANDONED PROPERTY STATUS.

III. MULLER AND PHIPPS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, ONE PARK AVE., NEW YORK CITY, 10016; WHICH OWNED 49 PERCENT OF M&P (PAKISTAN) WHICH HAD SALES OFFICE IN BANGLADESH. THIS FIRM HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE BDG AS AN ABANDONED PROPERTY UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. ONE M&P OFFICER, THE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATOR (SECOND IN COMMAND) CALLED SEPTEMBER 9 TO URGE US TO ALERT M&P TO THE POSSIBILITY OF REQUESTING THE BDG TO DISINVEST THE M&P OFFICE IN DACCA. THIS POSSIBILITY PROBABLY EXISTS IN THE CASE OF ALL THOSE ABANDONED PROPERTIES. M&P NEW YORK NOW SELLS ITS PRODUCTS HERE THROUGH M&P (BANGLADESH).
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IV. WARNER-LAMBERT PHARMACEUTICALS CO., 201 TABOR ROAD, MORRIS PLAINS, NEW JERSEY 07950; WHICH OWNED 60 PERCENT OF W-L OFFICE IN BANGLADESH. W-L PHARMACEUTICAL CO. HAS ALSO BEEN TAKEN OVER AS AN ABANDONED PROPERTY UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. THE ADMINISTRATOR AND MANAGER IS ASHRAFUL ABEDIN.

C. PHILLIP MORRIS INC. HAS NO OFFICE IN DACCA, BUT ITS ASSOCIATE, DACCA TOBACCO, HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER AS AN

ABANDONED PROPERTY UNDER THE BANGLADESH SUGAR, FOOD AND
ALLIED INDUSTRIES CORPORATION.

5. RE PARA 7 REFTTEL A, THE BDG CONCLUSION CONCERNING
ASSOCIATED BAGGING, GALFRA-HABIB, AND DACCA TOBACCO
IMPLIES THAT THE US OWNERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR COMPENSATION
(PROVIDED THEIR NET WORTH IS POSITIVE) AND MAY FILE
CLAIMS IF THEY WISH TO DO SO.
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